

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEHRAN 07143 110853Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----088393 110856Z /12

O R 110735Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4020
INFO AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T TEHRAN 7143

EXDIS

DEPT PLEASE PASS USCINCEUR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS IR SO US
SUBJ: POSSIBLE IRANIAN AID TO SOMALIA

REF: (A) STATE 189617, (B) TEHRAN 6018 (NOTAL)

1. INFORMATION PROVIDED REFTEL CONCERNING POSSIBLE
IRANIAN ARMS AID TO SOMALIA WILL COME AS CONSIDERABLE
SURPRISE TO GOVT OF IRAN. US INITIATIVES ENCOURAGING IRANIAN
SECRET

SECRET

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ASSISTANCE BEGAN WITH REQUEST BY SECY VANCE ON MAY 13. GEN
TOUFANIAN SUBMITTED LIST OF EQUIPMENT EARMARKED FOR TRANSFER TO
SOMALIA ON JULY 6. PRES CARTER DECIDED THAT US AGREED IN PRINCIPLE
TO SUPPLY OF US WEAPONS ON JULY 21. THAT DECISION PRESUMABLY
ANSWERED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE THE QUESTIONS I HAD RAISED IN REF B.

2. IT WOULD BE NATURAL, IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, FOR GOI TO

ASSUME THAT APPROPRIATE CLEARANCE PROCEDURES WERE IN TRAIN AND THAT PRIOR NOTIFICATION TO CONGRESS HAD BEEN MADE AT TIME OF PRESIDENT'S DECISION. (THIS EMB HAD NOT BEEN INFORMED UNTIL RECEIPT OF REFTEL THAT MATTER HAS BEEN HELD IN SUSPENSE EVEN AFTER THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION.)

3. I WILL, OF COURSE, NOTIFY GOI THAT US APPROVAL FOR ARMS SHIPMENT CAN NOT REPEAT NOT BE GIVEN AND THAT, EVEN IF WE DECIDE TO RECOMMEND ITS APPROVAL, ACTION WILL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL OCTOBER. I WILL ALSO NOTIFY MY SOMALI COLLEAGUE OF THESE SAME FACTS. ADDITIONALLY, I WILL EXPLAIN TO BOTH OF THEM THAT THE US MILITARY MISSION WHICH THE DEPT ANNOUNCED WAS GOING TO SOMALIA ACTUALLY WENT TO SUDAN.
SULLIVAN

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED USCINCEUR.

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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